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THE SPECTATOR VERITAS ET INTEGRITAS MDCCCXLVIII

The Spectator

Thursday, February 24, 2022

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Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

Mask mandates relaxed on campus and in NY

by Nicole (Nikki) Greenberg '25
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

An email sent to the Hamilton College community on Tuesday, Feb. 22, detailed changes to the College's masking policies. Effective Tuesday, Feb. 22, masks are only required to be worn in classrooms during class, labs and studios, the Testing Center, the Health Center and indoor events that include external audiences (e.g. indoor athletic and performing arts events). Additionally, individuals can request masks be worn during meetings, when interactions are in close proximity and for visitors while indoors in public areas. As stated in the email, "Hamilton is moving to relax some of the mask requirements on campus and, contingent on weekly test results, will proceed to relax other COVID-19 protocols as appropriate."

Since Jan. 1, 2022, the College has recorded 187 total student, 54 total employee and 31 total third party COVID-19 cases.

In an interview prior to the mask update, Dean of Students Terry Martinez shared that "across the NESCACs, folks are having the conversation about when and how they are going to be moving, and we are definitely having that conversation in our task force." According to Dean Martinez, the Hamilton COVID-19 Task Force considered a variety of factors in the decision making process beyond just the COVID-19 positivity rate on campus.

On Tuesday, Feb. 22, the COVID-19 positivity rate on campus was 1.26% among students and 0.81% among employees. "We know that it is likely that we will have folks throughout the semester that will continue to get it, but for us we're trying to make sure that we can manage and so far this semester it's evident that we can manage higher numbers," Dean Martinez explained.

Dean Martinez also stated that the low positivity rate on campus, the declining numbers locally and the College's capacity to manage positive COVID-19 cases "gives us an opportunity to take a look at our position" on masks. Dean Martinez ended the conversation by sharing, "We're all looking forward to the day when we can see each other's faces again, so hopefully that will be sooner than later."

New York State required masks to be worn inside businesses beginning Friday, Dec. 10, 2021 in light of the rise in COVID-19 cases associated with the Omicron variant. However, in an announcement on Wednesday, Feb. 9, New York State Governor Kathy Hochul declared that the statewide indoor mask-or-vaccine mandate would expire on Thursday, Feb. 10. This change in mask policy emanated from a sharp decline in COVID-19 case counts and hospitalizations.

Businesses, local governments and counties can now enforce mask policies independently. However, certain high-density areas will continue to require people to wear masks. These areas include all health care settings regulated by the Department of Health, nursing homes, adult care facilities, correctional facilities, detention centers, homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters, public transit and transportation hubs, trains, planes and airports. Educational settings in New York are also still required to enforce mask wearing, though Hochul plans to assess school mask requirements in early March (using public health data, including key metrics like cases per 100,000 residents, hospital admission rates, vaccination rates, global trends and pediatric hospitalizations).

With the lifting of mask mandates in New York and across the country, many other colleges and universities are adjusting their mask policies. The State University of New York (SUNY) system is basing their mask policies on ensuring an in-person learning experience. The universal mask mandate remains intact throughout the SUNY system, but administrators have established a plan to begin lifting the mask requirement in consultation with public health departments.

Colgate University, a private institution just 20 miles away from Clinton, has lifted the mask mandate on campus with a few exceptions: masks must be worn on the

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

school's buses and inside Student Health Services. Faculty and students are also advised to carry masks on their person at all times. Furthermore, the Colgate masking guidlines state that "a faculty or staff member may require a student or colleague to wear masks within their classrooms or offices. Faculty or staff members may require masks for programs and events held inside classrooms or other campus spaces as well."

Professor of Economics, Department Chair and Henry Platt Bristol Professor of Public Policy Ann Owen expressed her opinion on the changing of the mask policy here at Hamilton. "If the CDC guidelines suggest that rates of transmission in our area are low enough to get rid of the mask requirement, then I think that we should. I don't think we should do it simply because we are tired of wearing masks or not change the policy because we have an irrational fear. As we consider any changes to the policy, we should be sure to consider the impact on any vulnerable members of our community and ensure that the risk is manageable for all." She continued, "personally, I dislike teaching in a mask and looking out at a bunch of masked faces in the class. So, I hope that conditions do improve significantly so that we can get rid of masks before the end of the semester."

Professor Owen also addressed the policy changes at colleges nearby. "I hope we do not adopt Colgate's policy in which it is up to the individual faculty member to decide if students should mask in their classrooms. It somehow puts the responsibility on the faculty member to determine the risk, and I don't think we are always in the best position to do that."

Hamilton meets StormReady requirements and revamps emergency notification system

by Deanna Durben '25
NEWS EDITOR

On Friday, Feb. 18, Hamilton College received the StormReady designation from the National Weather Service, joining just 14 other universities and 68 sites in New York State. To receive this certification, a community must meet five criteria: establish a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center, have more than one way to receive severe weather warnings or forecasts and alert the public, create a system that monitors weather conditions locally, promote the importance of public readiness through community seminars and develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and holding emergency exercises.

In Summer 2021, the College hired a new Emergency Manager, and one of their goals was to become StormReady. Oneida County has historically had four seasons of high-impact weather, and the biggest threat to students on campus is, in fact, the weather. Becoming StormReady was important to "show our students, our faculty, our staff that this is serious," said Director of Campus Safety Frank Coots.

"There's a lot of students here that are not familiar with snowstorms, or know what a tornado is, and we suffer from both of them," said Coots. During the snowstorm on Friday, Feb. 4, the College had to delay opening until 10 a.m. to give facilities personnel a head start, attempting to clear the campus of cars so that roads and sidewalks could be properly plowed. This has been a rare occurence in the past, as the College has only canceled class once and delayed it twice in the five years Coots has been at Hamilton.

The two power outages we have had in the past six months, most recently on Sunday, Feb. 6, have also significantly impacted the community. Those were not weather-specific disasters, but "when it's two degrees, it becomes a weather event," Coots said. Although most residence halls have backup generators able to power emergency lights as well as non-electric heating systems, an extended power outage would still be extremely dangerous in the winter.

"We know that the weather is affecting us here on campus, and we have to be better prepared for it, not only through StormReady, but also working with our facilities people to have backup plans in place," Coots said. Climate change has also worsened the severity of weather events and made it even more important to be prepared for potential future disasters. As Coots said, "we can't just assume that things are going to be fine tomorrow, we have to have a Plan B and a Plan C."

PHOTO COURTESY OF NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

This semester, the College installed 42 emergency beacons around campus that engage multiple senses. "It's visual, it's audio, it's notifications, it flashes, it really gets your attention while also displaying a specific message," Coots explained. They can show warnings about anything from inclement weather to dangerous individuals. Campus Safety has a panic button enabling instant activation of various alerts campus-wide. The goal is to gradually add more beacons, hopefully 20 in the next year. Although they are 400 dollars a piece, "we've committed to it, and we believe it's the way to go," Coots said.

As part of the restructuring to meet StormReady warning point requirements, the College has replaced and upgraded the notification system for emergencies, which now includes a new framework for mass texts and emails. All community members should have received texts about the power outage from 89361.

Responding to that text now creates an anonymous report. Students can send in texts, photos and videos reporting any incident or potential problem, without revealing their name or any identifying information if they fear backlash. The system processes incoming information anonymously, so students only need to report their name if they wish to be contacted. This also creates a more convenient way for students to report non-emergencies like a water leak. "You don't have to do anything special, just reply," Coots explained. "We can distribute that information right away, whether it's to Facilities or to law enforcement."

Another non-traditional way to get help is through a Zoom link, available on the Campus Safety website, where the person reporting can show a live video feed of whatever is taking place.

"What's important is that I open up every avenue for students to report any event." Coots believes most people are raised to instinctively make a phone call for help, whether to law enforcement or an ambulance. "You don't say get on Zoom, you say 'Call Campo' and it's as simple as that," he laughed. However, Coots wants to open up these alternative ways of communication, to make getting help "more quick, much more efficient, and more safe for everyone."

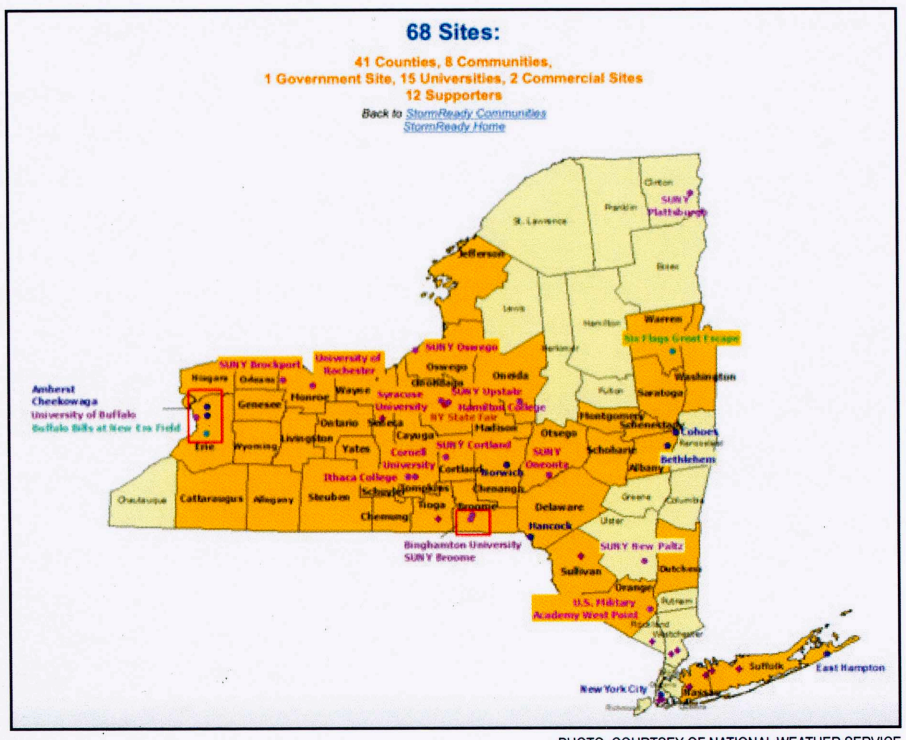

PHOTO COURTESY OF NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Hamilton College joins 68 StormReady sites in New York State.

February 24, 2022

Students volunteer for MLK Jr. Day of Service

by Chinkhuslen Batbayar '25
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service and the final week of Black History Month, the Hamilton Association for Volunteering, Outreach and Charity (HAVOC) and the Days-Massolo Center (DMC) organized various events.

Last Saturday, Feb. 20, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., HAVOC organized their 24th annual Martin Luther King (MLK) Jr. Day of Service. Students volunteered at eight local non-profit organizations including the Abraham House, Clinton Middle School, Emmaus House, Jervis Public Library, Johnson Park Center, Thea Bowman House and For The Good. However, unlike previous years, the number of seats available was drastically lower due to the COVID-19 rules and regulations. Only 45 volunteers attended the trip, instead of the usual 200. "Usually our day of service is a lot bigger, but, because of COVID-19, we couldn't accommodate every site we usually do. So for example, we couldn't go to nursing homes," commented Irena Chen '25, Project Manager and Events Coordinator for the MLK Jr. Day of Service.

Chen said the event was further impacted by the absence of a portion of the volunteers. "It was especially upsetting because none of the volunteers for one of the sites showed up, which meant no volunteers could go to that site," said Chen. She shared that her coworker had to make a phone call to the site apologizing for the absense of the students.

Back on campus, the DMC organized a guided Black History Month art walk at the Wellin Museum, led by the student docents, which took place from 2 to 5 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 21. The event depicted American history through the lens of Black artists and creators, featuring works of art from the Wellin's collection as well as the current exhibit, *Yashua Klos: OUR LABOUR.*

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAVOC

PHOTO COURTESY OF @HAMILTONCOLLEGE ON INSTAGRAM

PHOTO COURTESY OF @HAMILTONCOLLEGE ON INSTAGRAM

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to respect discretion, *The Spectator* and Campus Safety have not disclosed the idenities of the students involved in these reports.

Sat., Feb. 19

1:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident — On Campus

6:23 p.m. Medical Emergency — Eells House

8:43 p.m Area Check — Skenandoa Residence Hall

Sun., Feb. 20

1:18 a.m. Medical Emergency — Kirkland Residence Hall

1:32 a.m. Fire Alarm — Bundy West Residence Hall

4:59 a.m. Medical Emergency — Minor Residence Hall

10:29 a.m. Medical Emergency — North Residence Hall

11:50 p.m. Area Check — Fillius Events Barn

Mon., Feb. 21

7:33 a.m. Medical Emergency — Blood Fitness Center

8:01 a.m. Medical Emergency — Milbank Residence Hall

8:46 a.m. Medical Emergency — Glenview-A

12:36 p.m. Complaint — Griffin Road Apartments

3:24 p.m. Animal Complaint — North Campus

7:30 p.m. Medical Emergency — South Campus

Tues., Feb. 22

12:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident — 11 College Hill Road (President's House)

6:45 p.m. Trouble Alarm — Little Pub

7:45 p.m. Medical Emergency — Milbank Residence Hall

8:31 p.m. Medical Emergency — Johnson Center For Health And Wellness

9:12 p.m. Assist — Commons Dining Facility

Dear members of the Hamilton Community,

Sexual advocacy on college campuses has been a worldwide challenge to overcome for both men and women. The process before and after is very traumatizing for students and it does not seem like many people are talking about it. We are The Visionaries, a part of a larger organization called Hidden Voices. We have been collectively meeting every week to discuss how we can bring change upon college campuses. We (Katrinah Tejeda '25 and Leslie De La Rosa '25) are representing Hamilton College as both cohort leaders and ambassadors. This organization has reached out to different colleges and universities around the country in order to bring change for men and women on campuses. We are beginning to recruit students into our organization who are outspoken and determined to acknowledge the faulty college system.

If you feel passionate about the safety of our community please reach out to us! Anyone and everyone is welcome to join! Please email our ambassador Katrinah Tejeda at ktejeda@hamilton.edu for any questions or concerns! Our first meeting will be happening within the course of the next few weeks!

***Confidentiality and respect are key to being a part of this organization. The stories we will be sharing are heavy and should not be shared with other students outside of the organization. Our promise is to have a safe space for those who have experienced sexual assault on campus. We invite all those who have their own stories to tell and those who want to help support our cause!

You can follow our organization's instagram page, @hiddenvoicesus to learn more about the organization!

Sincerely,

Leslie De La Rosa '25: Cohort Leader

Katrinah Tejeda '25: Ambassador

"We create venus for STORIES from those rarely seen and heard"

The Spectator

is looking for social media editors, web editors and individuals who want to distribute the paper to join our staff!

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Celebrating 175 years, we were first published as The Radiator *in 1847.*

The Spectator

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The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national, and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

The Hamilton College Spectator, *publication number USPS 612-840, is published weekly by the Hamilton College Student Media Board while classes are in session. For more information e-mail spec@hamilton.edu. Our offices are located on the second floor of the Sadove Student Center. The deadline for advertisements is Monday the week of publication. For further information, please e-mail specads@hamilton.edu.*

CAB and WHCL's Battle of the Bands

by Lizzie Herr '24
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

The Campus Activities Board and Hamilton's radio station, WHCL, co-hosted a vibrant night of live music, merchandise giveaways, energetic cheering and socializing at Battle of the Bands on Sat., Feb. 20. The event sponsored by FebFest featured ten Hamilton student bands and solo performers who took the stage of the Events Barn for a short two song set each.

Students lined up the staircase and into the upper level of the Events Barn, awaiting one of the last opportunities for a FebFest merchandise drop before the doors opened at 6:00 p.m. Saturday evening. Members of CAB gave out sky blue t-shirts made just for the Battle of the Bands, featuring a polar bear, seal and penguin all playing instruments in their own FebFest band. As students piled into the Events Barn, the mood was peaceful until the whole crowd stood in anticipation for the band Simurgh, who then graced the audience with a hard metallic rendition of Britney Spears's "Toxic." The crowd bopped up and down with the loud cover, screaming along to Spears's lyrics. Most remained standing the rest of the night, singing and swaying along at some points, jumping and loudly cheering at others. Despite the mandatory ventilation break halfway through the event, the second half of the night featuring the last five bands attracted the same audience, plus more avid watchers. The floor overlooking the stage was full, with only a little squeeze room to get by, while the upstairs rotunda was packed as people viewed the performances from above. As people excitedly jumped for SLUNA and passionately sang along to Junior Varsity's cover of "Valerie," the audience was upbeat and encouraging to match the passionate energy of the student performers.

Georgia Brown '25, a keyboardist and backup vocalist for both Junior Varsity and Yonic Youth, played two sets at Battle of the Bands and identified her favorite songs she performed as "I Wish" and "Play That Funky Music." When asked about her experience as a performer in this event, she said, "The crowd was awesome—it was so great to see so many people there." She was grateful to be able to see and support a diverse group of performers and said, "the awesome thing about short sets is that you get to see a lot of talented people perform, so I had a lot of fun watching everyone else."

From soloists like Eva the Diva and her soothing performance, to bigger bands like Uptown Booty and their danceable songs, Battle of the Bands featured diverse music and represented the far reaching talents of Hamilton students. Many students, like Brown, were onstage several times performing with different bands, speaking to their commitment and passion for music. Brown spoke to her experience in the music scene at Hamilton as one full of people who are "so talented and friendly, so I love getting to play with everyone and getting to know them. It's also awesome to see how much people love the shows."

PHOTO BY SOPHIE VISCARELLO '25

PHOTO BY SOPHIE VISCARELLO '25

PHOTO BY SOPHIA VISACRELLO '25

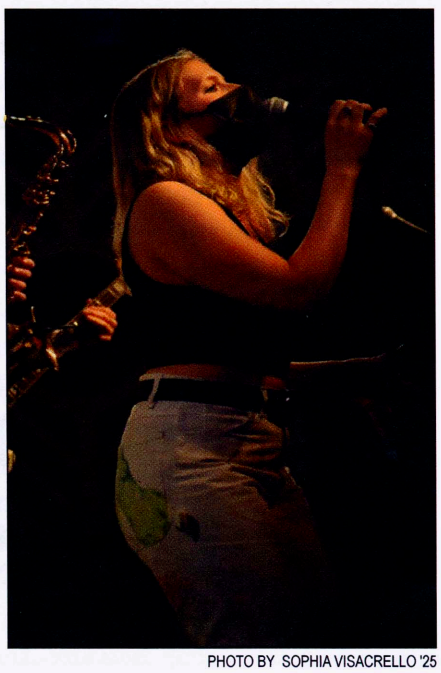

PHOTO BY SOPHIA VISACRELLO '25

The fact that the audience was packed speaks to student excitement over watching their friends and classmates perform. No matter what music was performed or who it was performed by, the audience was incredibly active and showed unwavering support to each performer, putting on display the closeness of the Hamilton community.

Despite the friendly and supportive nature of Battle of the Bands, the event was a contest to determine which student band will get to perform on Class & Charter Day. The event featured two rounds of voting, one after the first section of performers, and another after the second section. Audience members who attended the entire first and/or second acts were able to vote on their favorite band/performer, and who they believed should open for the headliner on the annual Class & Charter Day. After counting the votes, CAB announced that Uptown Booty and Vandigo won the Battle of the Bands; they will perform for students on the last day of classes of the Spring 2022 semester in May.

Bachelor & Bachelorette

Teddy Slosberg '24

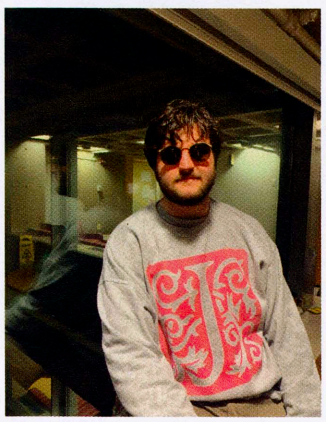

PHOTO COURTESY OF ABIGAIL MANGIAFICO '24

Pronouns: he/him.
Hometown: Chestnut Hill, MA; go Eagles.
Home on Campus: Root.
Major: Philosophy.
Turn on? Rugby players.
Turn off? Men with radio shows.
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? Kirkland, because I like to stay responsible.
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, who would you pick and why? Simon and Garfunkel.
What TV genre best describes you? I'm just like the guy in breaking bad.
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? Is that a Jstor sweatshirt?
What's your type? Discord users.
What are three things you cannot live without? Guns, Germs and Steel.
If you were any social space, what would it be? The Gamma Slamma.
Where do you go when you want to be alone? Abi's bed, since nobody else is ever in it.
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? The Jans (for the jarties).
What's your Patronus and why? A frog.
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? Breaking the ice sculpture.
What would you give a thumbs up? Thesis radio sundays @ 11 on whcl ;)
What would you give a thumbs down? MF Zard mondays @ 11 >:(
Who would you say is your campus crush? DF '22.
Who would you say is your faculty crush? Suzanne Taylor.
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? A rock from the Great Lakes.
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? Breaking the ice sculpture.
If you were a food, which would you be and why? Salted oatmeal.
Lights on or lights off? Strobe.
Favorite campus study spot? The physics lounge (not a physics major).
What was your first thought this morning? My bachelor answers are late.
Which member of Disney royalty are you? The one from *Wreck it Ralph* because I'm the glitch.

Abigail Mangiafico '24

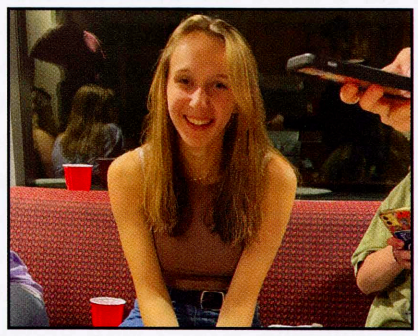

PHOTO COURTESY OF TEDDY SLOSBERG '24

Pronouns: she/her.
Hometown: Bedford, NH
Home on Campus: Root!
Major: Public Policy and Econ (ew)
Turn on? Men.
Turn off? Women.
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? Glenview, because I never should have been here in the first place.
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, who would you pick and why? Sarah Healy and Froggy.
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? "Would you wanna be this week's bachelor along with Teddy?"
What's your type? Soundcloud rapping rugby players.
What are three things you cannot live without? Gum, the gym and Rebecca Toomey.
If you were any social space, what would it be? MFzard, Monday nights at 11 PM on 88.7 WHCL.
Where do you go when you want to be alone? Gym at 4 PM.
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? The KJ Atrium Social Scene.
What's your Patronus and why? Campus squirrel because they fear nothing and I fear everything.
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? French toast at the omelette bar.
What would you give a thumbs up? The Industrial Revolution.
What would you give a thumbs down? The consequences of the Industrial Revolution.
Who would you say is your campus crush? Root 400.
Who would you say is your faculty crush? Caught in a love triangle between my two advisors.
What would your perfect date be? Cooking up in the stu.
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? Graham Stuard…we get it you have weird eyebrows.
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? Living on lightside.
If you were a food, which would you be and why? McEwen taqueria; people only like me by comparison.
Favorite campus study spot? KJ water feature.
What's the last lie you told? Turn offs.
What was your first thought this morning? I wonder if the wordle is going to make me sad today.
What's the meaning of life? The pursuit of property.
Which member of Disney royalty are you? Elsa, because I'm cold and definitely gay.
Which American historical figure are you attracted to and why? Alexander Hamilton…why else would I be here?

February 24, 2022

Jeff Zucker's resignation reveals the media's moral bankruptcy

by Edward Gamble '25
STAFF WRITER

PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES

Jeff Zucker and Allison Gollust are pictured side-by-side.

On Feb. 2, Jeff Zucker, president of CNN Worldwide, announced his resignation for violating the company's code of conduct. Zucker failed to disclose a romantic relationship with his subordinate, Chief Marketing Officer Allison Gollust. He stated in a memo that "as part of the investigation into Chris Cuomo's tenure at CNN, [he] was asked about a consensual relationship with [his] closest colleague… [of] more than 20 years," and that he "was required to disclose it when it began but [he] didn't." Supposedly, the long-standing relationship between Gollust and Zucker turned sexual during the pandemic. However, according to the Wall Street Journal, Gollust was ousted from CNN on Feb. 18 because many people believed that the relationship started much earlier than the pandemic. The relationship between Zucker and Gollust may have been completely consensual [he would have still violated CNN's policy regarding romantic relationships], but their relationship is private and thus should be left out of this discussion.

Nonetheless, the discrepency in power between Zucker and Gollust is substantial enough to incite inquiry into Gollust's ability to decline Zucker's sexual advances. Gollust met Zucker when he was an executive producer and seven years her senior. The next year, Zucker promoted her to Senior Publicist. I want to be clear that my intent is not to question Gollust's talent as a publicist—there is no reason to suggest that she did not deserve her promotions—but evidence suggests that the relationship between Gollust and Zucker played a significant role in her career, and that may have limited Gollust's decision-making power in the relationship. For example, if Gollust decided that she wanted to end her sexual relationship with Zucker, she could have been fired, or her burgeoning career could haven otherwise been halted.

This type of power imbalance was constant throughout their entire relationship, even if they truly began their relationship during the COVID-19 pandemic. Gollust had an exorbitant amount of implicit pressure on her to remain in a relationship with Zucker, which left Gollust subject to his inclinations. She was dependent on Zucker, and there is no evidence that she had the liberty to refuse his desires. However, the deeply inappropriate nature of their relationship is relegated to the background of the articles covering the transgression.

The articles I read seemed wholly uninterested in the relationship between Zucker and Gollust, instead focusing on the financial impacts of their scandal, and for some reason, Cuomo's abhorrent behavior. I can somewhat understand why this is happening, given that Discovery, CNN's parent company, will soon merge with Warner Media, and there is a possibility that the increasing amount of scandals coming from CNN might derail the merger. Such a cancellation would have a drastic impact on the lives of a lot of people, and thus would clearly merit reporting. However, the merger is the focal point of most articles. The actual events that led to Zucker's resignation are briefly mentioned, but the nature of his relationship with Gollust or the possibility of Zucker lying to his lawyers about the duration of the relationship are not considered. These discussions also inevitably include a lengthy section about Cuomo, who has no association to the actual events of the Zucker story. Cuomo's actions are reprehensible and deserve to be enumerated, but they do not pertain to this situation. In this context, Cuomo needs only to be mentioned in relation to the concerning culture of sexual assult at CNN, and how that might affect the merger.

Additionally, the reasons for Zucker's resignation are often mainly attributed to external factors, not his sexual misconduct. A New York Times article on the subject speculated that "[t]he barb raised questions about whether the network's future owners would seek major editorial changes," and that "Mr. Zucker had a testy relationship with Mr. Kilar, the WarnerMedia chief executive." The affair had violated company conduct, but that was not the stated reason for Kilar changing the company structure to push out Zucker. Rather, the article implies that Zucker's resignation only occurred because a multitude of different factors converged and suggests that if Zucker was liked more by Kilar, then his misconduct would have been overlooked. The article should have instead drawn more attention to the consequences of Zucker's actions. It seems like media companies thought that Zucker's violations were not notable on their own and consequently that other things have to be constantly referred to so the article can justify its existence as news.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BBC

An office building with the CNN logo in the front. Zucker and Gollust were employed at CNN until their respective departures.

Jodel: The app captivating campus

by Abraham Ortiz '25
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

Coming onto campus as a freshman with a head full of hopes, dreams and a love for new experiences, it is not an entirely unique claim to say that the only thing awaiting me was disappointment. There is a somewhat enigmatic concept known as the "College Experience" that exists in every prospective student's mind whether they like it or not, unique to everyone based on what they value, be it sports, studying or social interaction. We strive to achieve it, and we think it will make us happy once achieved. It is unsurprising then that when this "College Experience" we each create in our heads fails to live up to our ideals, frustration sets in. Where else to vent this frustration, this longing for an end-all-be-all happiness, than on an anonymous online board full of endless tortured souls such as yourself? Jodel fits this role wonderfully on a college campus—better than anything I have witnessed before. Its power lies in its accessibility, and above all else, its anonymity.

Walk down Martin's Way and reflect on what you see. While the wind and snow would have you believe that you are walking through some twisted version of hell, you might see your fellow students. It is very likely that you do not wonder about whatever goes on in the mind of the average Martin's Way occupant. Main Character Syndrome has taken hold; you are the most important person in the world, and everyone else is a side character. This experience is not necessarily a bad thing, considering the amount of responsibility and commitment thrust upon us at our age. We simply have too much on our minds to regularly think about others, and as such, we tend to act as if we are the only people in the world who can experience emotion, bad and good. Now reflect on a five-minute scroll through the equally hellish landscape that is Jodel. Other people have thoughts and opinions and frustrations too? Who would have thought? You will quickly realize that rampant depression and sexual frustration are not (and never were) unique to you.

There is a kind of comfort in this realization that binds our college community together. It is all too easy to feel like the only person in the world when so far away from home, and especially when the people around you seem so invested in their own lives. Sometimes, all you need is a simple, "Yeah man, I feel the same way," to lift yourself out of a rut. Jodel's anonymity allows for the most candid, unfiltered and human thoughts to reach the outwardly apathetic population of Hamilton College. And yes, this also includes the common, "Need head rn" post (it seems that everyone needs head expeditiously all the time, if you spend enough time on Jodel). In my experience, Jodel posts range from deep and primordial discussions of loneliness and social dependence to funny and honest observations on the superficiality of party interactions. There is no limit to the kinds of topics observable on Jodel, and it is unsurprising that most discussions include subjects which you would never directly talk about to a stranger (or even to the people closest to you)—things too human, and oftentimes too tacitly demonstrated, for daily conversation. Jodel allows for the average person to put those feelings into words and put it out there in the hope that somebody resonates with it, and to perhaps find some solace in knowing that they are, in fact, not alone.

Now all this being said, Jodel is not a one-stop-shop to cure yourself of your daily anxiety and depression, or even the general sadness of life. Oftentimes, going onto Jodel to read about the thoughts of other people can have the opposite effect. An expected side effect of having pure human emotion and thought on display is the feeling of things being all too real. Those who experience troubles too grand to deal with on their own often reach out, because their thoughts have no other way to settle. While Jodel might seem like the perfect place to vent your frustration, it can also hit disconcertingly close to home if you find yourself overly receptive to emotionally raw and vulnerable ideas. The best method of seeking validation for your turbulent and overwhelming feelings, tried and true through time, is speaking about them to a person you trust. This is certainly easier said than done for some, being so far away from home and comfort, and it is easy not to trust anyone around you with your feelings. That in mind, I think Jodel can exist as a place of small relief for those feeling lost, confused and alone. Hearing all this, you would be forgiven for thinking that Jodel is a sad and miserable app full of sad and miserable people venting about their sad and miserable lives. Go on the app for five minutes and it will become apparent how wrong this assessment is. Other people, if you can believe it, can be funny and insightful. It stands to reason, then, that you can easily find many interesting and humorous comments on Jodel. I can give you immediate proof: the first Jodel I saw when getting on the app not two minutes before writing this read: "Call me feral, but I will bark at you to assert my dominance," a sentiment I found relatable. Would I do so in real life? Not likely, but it sets an amusing scene. This interaction with a Jodel post is far from unique; day after day, I go on Jodel and think the words 'real' and 'true' around thirty times before I close the app. The little moments throughout your day when you think of something insightful or funny and you just wish you could tell someone are precisely Jodel's purpose. When things get too heavy and you need to vent—this, too, is what Jodel is for. You hardly have to take my word for it (although you may as well, given that you are already this far into the article)—download the app and see for yourself.

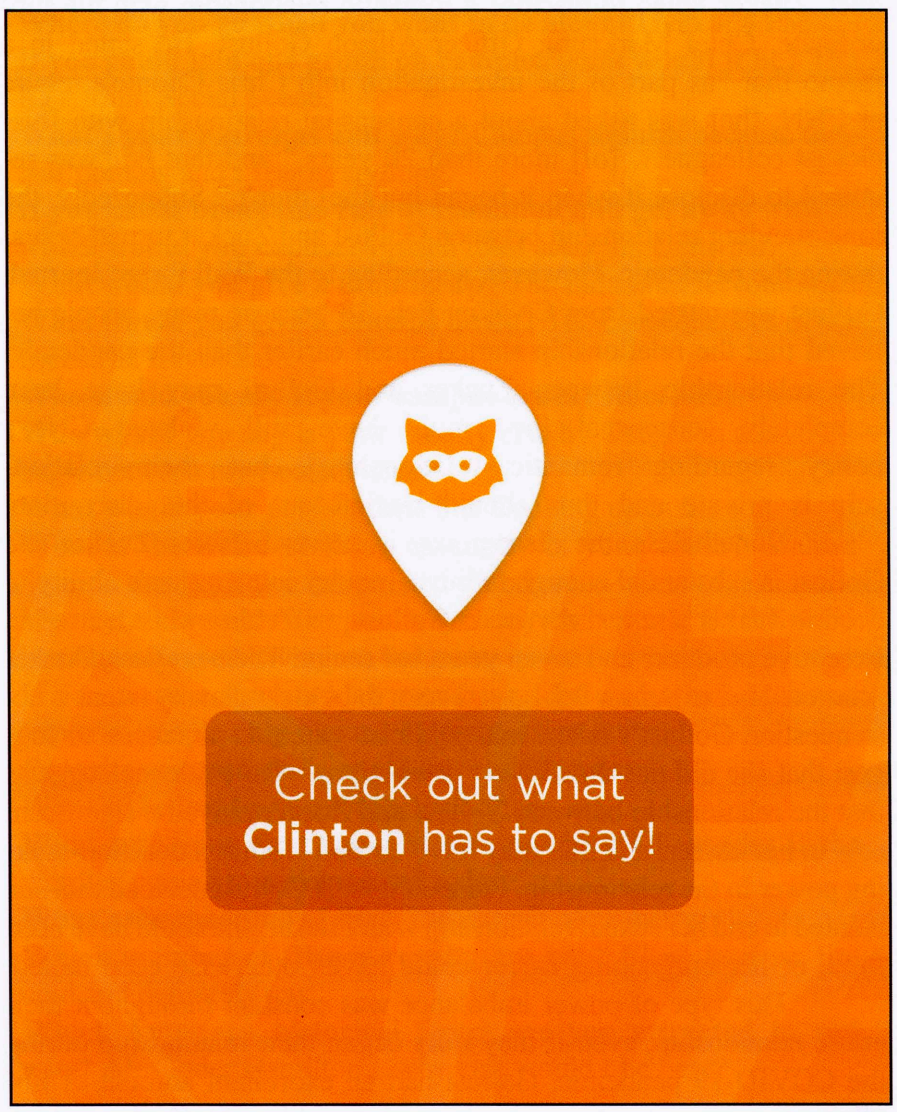

PHOTO COURTESY OF JODEL

Jodel users on Hamilton's campus make use of the geolocated chat.

Nepotism and sexualization behind *Euphoria*

by Max Bratter '25
STAFF WRITER

Euphoria is a show that needs no introduction. The narcotics-filled, trance-like and sex-obsessed television series has infiltrated pop-culture through the outlet of HBO Max. Its creator, Sam Levinson was mostly unknown before the show, but he is now getting more coverage than ever, for better or for worse.

Sam Levinson is the son of Barry Levinson. "Who is Barry Levinson?", you may be asking yourself. Barry Levinson is an Oscar-winning director, writer and producer who has put out critically acclaimed films such as *Rain Man, Sleepers, Good Morning; Vietnam*, and many more. More relevantly, Barry Levinson has had an extensive professional relationship with *Euphoria*'s TV network; HBO.

Alongside Tom Fontana, Barry founded The Levinson/Fontana Company, a television production company. When many people think of HBO, they immediately think of *The Sopranos*. What many of those same people may not realize is that Barry set the precedent for HBO to make shows such as The Sopranos with his prison-oriented drama: *Oz*. *Oz* revolutionized television, as it popularized the now commonplace 1-hour formatting of episodes within a series. Furthermore, Barry was also instrumental in starting the career of the future creator of the also legendary HBO show, *The Wire*. By suggesting David Simon's book, titled *Homicide*, become a series on NBC, Barry gave Simon the groundwork to work with HBO in the future.

The shows to which Barry contributed to a standard of creative freedom that ran true throughout HBO's history post-*Oz*. *Oz* was particularly known for its frequently sexually explicit scenes, and casual featuring of drugs, violence and even rape. As raunchy as it may have been, these occurrences seem considerably aligned with the context of the show. Moreover, Barry's common involvement at HBO gives clarity as to how Sam may have accessed the network in the first place.

Aside from opinions on the actual in-depth themes of the show, I think it's justifiable to say that his son, Sam, has abused his liberty to an almost innapropiate extent. Although Barry is a clear indicator of his son's creative filmography choices, Sam's mother, Diana Rhodes, has come up as another influence as of late. This comes in reference to Euphoria's Cassie, played by Sydney Sweeney.

Many on social media have noticed a striking resemblance between Sweeney and Rhodes. To make matters even more uncomfortable, Cassie is known in Euphoria as easily having the most sexualized, and flat-out nude, scenes. At certain points, Sweeney has even called upon Sam to refrain from certain sexual scenes that she felt were excessive. *Variety* quotes the following from Sweeney regarding this matter: "There are moments where Cassie was supposed to be shirtless and I would tell Sam, 'I don't really think that's necessary here.' He was like, 'Ok, we don't need it.' I've never felt like Sam has pushed it on me or was trying to get a nude scene into an HBO show. When I didn't want to do it, he didn't make me.""

While Sweeney emphasizes her comfort with Sam Levinson, she is definitely not alone in the thought that he may over-sexualize characters. Minka Kelly, who plays Samantha in the show, is referenced in an article from Vanity Fair, where she details the same type of hesitance. In her introductory episode, Sam asked Kelly to allow her dress to fall to the floor during a scene. Kelly voiced her opposition to this suggestion, and Levinson took the critique in stride and allowed her to perform within her comfort zone.

Sam Levinson's insistence on the sexualization of his actresses is surely questionable, but as of right now, there does not seem to be any foul play. Whether or not such sensuality actually contributes to the show's substance is not for certain. Regardless, the distinct popularity and aesthetic of Euphoria cannot be denied.

If you want to stay up to date with Euphoria's weekly episode releases, be sure to head to the show's watch party that is held every Sunday at the Sadove Student Center 118, in the Massolo Sun Porch (#17 on the campus map)!

PHOTO COURTESY OF FILMMAGIC

Sam Levinson, creater of *Euphoria*, with actress Zendaya.

ROBIN WILLIAMS
In 1965, military D.J. Adrian Cronauer was sent to Vietnam to build morale.
His strategy: keep 'em laughing. His problem: staying out of trouble.
The wrong man. In the wrong place. At the right time.
GOOD MORNING VIETNAM
A BARRY LEVINSON FILM

PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB

***Good Morning Vietnam* was one of Levinson's breakout films.**

God's Not Finished: A *Donda* Era Retrospective

by Allen Underwood '25
STAFF WRITER

Like most Ye fans, I opened Apple Music on the night of July 24, 2020 with bated breath. Ye (formerly Kanye West) was set to release his 10th studio album, *Donda*, at midnight—or at least he tweeted as much. The leadup to this release had been eclectic to say the least, with Kanye announcing a slew of projects and his 2020 presidential campaign. In hindsight, it was overly optimistic to expect a release on July 24, especially after the dubious cancellation of *Yandhi* and countless delays of *Jesus Is King*. A *Donda* release wouldn't come for another year, in a rollout full of false starts and dazzling spectacle. In July 2021, Ye returned to the public eye with a series of listening parties and live streams that preceding the release of *Donda* on Aug. 29, 2021. Regardless of how you feel about the Donda rollout, there is no denying the magnitude and grandeur of the multimedia art Ye has created. To truly understand the *Donda* rollout, one has to go back to the beginning, in 2020.

Hot off the heels of 2019's *Jesus Is King*, Ye went right back into the studio and began work on his tenth studio album, then titled *God's Country. God's Country* was dark and gritty, with many comparing the sound to a blend between *Jesus Is King* and *Yeezus*. Ye never finished this album, but sought to release it in July of 2020, previewing "Wash Us In The Blood" as a single. "Wash Us In The Blood" contains many of the themes prominent in *God's Country*: the prison industrial complex and black empowerment through the lens of Christianity. Almost immediately following "Wash Us In The Blood"'s release, however, Ye had a complete paradigm shift for his album. On July 13 2020, Ye released a song snippet on Twitter featuring a speech given by his late mother backed by smooth, chipmunk soul production. He followed this up with a tracklist and a tagline: "new album *DONDA* out 7/24." It seemed like Ye was back in album mode. With each passing day, more figures became associated with the Donda: Justin Bieber, Mike Dean, Common, Lil Baby, and Pusha-T all appeared at West's Wyoming recording studio. Only later could one see how manic the production of 2020 Donda truly was. A leaked documentary from former Roc-A-Fella giant Dame Dash shows Ye's team frantically working to complete a number of different projects, all while trying to manage his presidential campaign. Despite negative PR after a controversial town hall held in South Carolina, Ye remained focused on the album, which now contained vibrant production reminiscent of *Graduation*.

When Ye (surprisingly) lost the 2020 presidential election, he ceased almost all public appearances outside of his work executive producing Playboi Carti's *Whole Lotta Red*. Unbeknownst to the general public, Ye was recording a different interpretation of *Donda* songs, in what is now known to us as *Spirits Over The Horizon*. This marked a period of increased experimentation from Ye, as *Spirits* can be further divided into 4 "sub-eras." January *Spirits* saw many *God's Country* songs revisited and polished, while March *Spirits* was a more freestyle oriented trap project. April *Spirits* was a dreamy and nostalgic album, while May *Spirits* was very similar to a version of *Donda* premiered in Las Vegas. As Ye returned to the public eye clad in enigmatic, opaque facemasks, the hype was back. Ye scheduled an album release party at the Atlanta Mercedes Benz stadium; the album was nowhere close to completion, although many interesting ideas were at play. The listening parties provided a way for fans to see the progression of songs over time. For instance, "Remote" began as a desolate track with stuttering snares and heavy autotune, before the instrumental was fleshed out and features were added during the subsequent two listening parties. Ye spent all his time in MBS for the majority of 2021 *Donda*'s production; this environment certainly influenced the sound of the album, which became much spacier and featured more organs. Ye's second listening party in Atlanta was promising, bolstered by an impressive visual performance orchestrated by Nick Knight. Ye even ascended through the roof of the stadium at the conclusion of the show. West would finally finish the album and preview it at Soldier Field on Aug. 26, 2021 in one of his most grand projects to date. Ye surrounded a reconstruction of his southside Chicago home with hundreds of faceless extras, and a variety of black vehicles, before lighting himself on fire at the show's conclusion. *Donda* would finally release three days later, on Aug. 29, 2021.

The *Donda* rollout was long and complex, with many different ideas bouncing off each other to produce the 27 track album we know today. Perhaps this is why release *Donda* feels so fresh and varied: because so much thought has been put into the precise sound Ye wanted to achieve. Love or hate the *Donda* rollout, but it was an unforgettable experience that it seems Ye will mirror with his follow up, *Donda II*, releasing Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022.

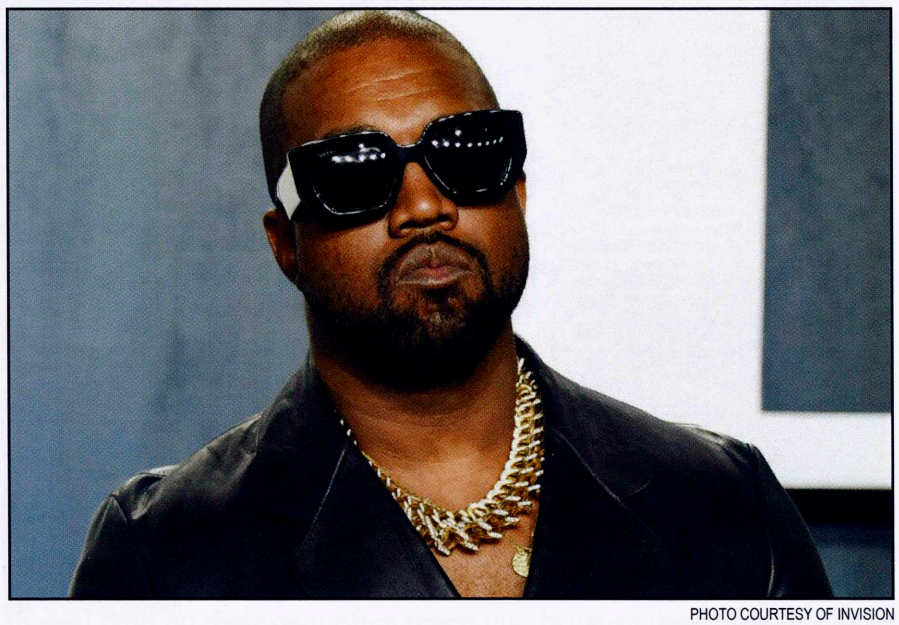

PHOTO COURTESY OF INVISION

As always, Kanye West just doing his Kanye Best.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BACKGRID

Ye wears an unsettling mask during his trip to Italy.

Hamilton winter sports postseason update

by Sam Dils '22
SPORTS EDITOR

The winter sports season is in the home stretch, as all participating teams on campus reach the final stages of competition for this 2021-22 season. With different teams on different timelines for postseason play, the goal of success at the NESCAC or national level is still within reach for several squads. Here is an update on where all of the winter teams stand.

Men's Basketball

The men's basketball team wrapped up its season this past weekend, falling at home to Colby in a first-round NESCAC Tournament matchup by a score of 64-58. Some foul trouble from senior captain and defensive anchor Nick Osarenren '22 made the loss a particularly tough pill to swallow, as some questionable touch fouls swung the momentum several times during the game. Osarenren fouled out with four minutes left in the game with Colby's lead at five. Despite an Eric Anderson '22 three pointer with 2:04 remaining that gave Hamilton its first lead since late in the first half, Colby executed late and pulled away in the final seconds. The team finishes the season 12-13 overall with a 4-6 record in NESCAC play.

Women's Basketball

The women's basketball team went on the road as the tenth seed in the NESCAC Tournament, falling to Wesleyan 63-52. As she has all season long, Kelcie Zarle '22 led all scorers with 22 points, finishing the season with an impressive 19.5 points per game. Trailing by four at halftime, it was a 19-11 third quarter in favor of Wesleyan that proved decisive. The team finishes the season at 9-13 overall with a 2-7 NESCAC record. The most impressive win came in late January, when they went on the road and beat Amherst, who has been a top-ten nationally ranked team all year long, with only two losses to their name on the entire season.

Women's Ice Hockey

The women's hockey team will be hosting its NESCAC quarterfinal game, earning the fourth seed in the conference. They will face off against a tough matchup in fifth-seeded Williams, who has already claimed two victories against Hamilton this season. The team has surged late, winning three of its last four. Nancy Loh '23 (13 goals, 11 assists), Hyla Mosher '23 (six goals, 10 assists), and goaltender Sidney Molnar '22 (.928 save percentage) will look to lead the way in a packed Russell Sage Rink.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Nancy Loh '23 glides up the ice during a home game against Wesleyan.

Men's Ice Hockey

Postseason play opens up this weekend for the men's hockey team. They will head to Wesleyan for a NESCAC quarterfinal matchup on Saturday, Feb. 26. As the fifth seed in the tournament, the team avoided a first-round matchup, with a bye that puts them straight through to the quarters. They have faced off with Wesleyan, the fourth seed, twice already this year; both ended in losses, the first a 4-3 overtime thriller. With a record of 10-9-1 on the year, the team is led by Matt Gellerman '24, who has a team-high 15 goals, Grisha Gotovets '25 (seven goals, 11 assists), and Jordi Jefferson '22 (six goals, nine assists). A win would extend the season another week, with the semifinals and finals being held on Mar. 5 and 6.

Men's Squash

The men's squash team finished third in the Conroy Cup at the 2022 CSA National Collegiate Men's Team Championships. They took first in their initial group of three in round robin play, racking up back-to-back wins against rival Wesleyan (6-3) and Fordham University (9-0). In the 1-3 playoff round, they fought hard, but fell to Colby 7-2 and eventual champion Hobart 6-3. At first position, Tate Suratt '23 went 3-1 on the weekend in his matches. The team finishes 27th overall in the nation.

Women's Squash

The women's squash team heads to Boston this weekend to participate in the Walker Cup, the Tier C Division of the 2022 CSA National Collegiate Women's Team Championships. As the seventh seed in the division of eight teams, they will have a great opportunity to improve their ranking for the season. Their quarterfinal matchup will come against number-two Stanford. After this weekend both squash teams will send participants to the CSA National Individual Championships, held from Mar. 4-6 in Philadelphia, PA.

Women's Swimming and Diving

The women's swimming and diving team finished eleventh at the NESCAC Championships, earning 467 points as a team. Sam Karlson '23 continued her incredible season in the pool, recording a school-record-breaking split of 50.72 over 100 yards as part of a relay event. Karlson took another record on the weekend, this time swimming a time of 51.21 seconds in the 100 freestyle, taking fourth place for the event. Lucy Hamann '22 and Irene Keh '24 also moved up the all-time school leaderboard with times of 2:04.88 in the 200 backstroke and 2:24.26 in the 200 breaststroke, respectively.

Men's Swimming and Diving

With a tenth-place finish at the NESCAC Championships at Colby College, the men's swimming and diving teams wrapped up their season this past weekend. A handful of outstanding individual performances highlighted the event. Jack Jee '24 broke the all-time Hamilton record in the 100-yard butterfly. His time of 50.14 broke a tie for the record that dated back to 1995. Ethan Del Rosario '25 nearly set an individual record himself in the 100-yard freestyle. In the preliminary round, he swam a 46.43, good for second on the Hamilton record board.

February 24, 2022

As global turmoil raged on, the Olympic Games failed to lighten the mood

by Owen Lewis '24
SPORTS EDITOR

The Olympic Games are a culmination of sporting excellence. Athletes from all over the world convene to compete in all kinds of different sports as millions of people watch in awe. It is a massive spectacle that has produced iconic moment after iconic moment.

The Games flopped this year.

Kamila Valieva, a 15-year-old Russian figure skater, was at the center of controversy. She tested positive for trimetazidine, a banned drug. She was allowed to compete due to the theory that if she did not, she would suffer irreparable emotional harm. To make this decision was to put Valieva ahead of the other figure skaters, whose tests were clean, but there was some logic to it. Valieva is 15; it is unlikely that she masterminded a drug scheme. There are theories that her coach, Eteri Tutberidze—who has a history of pupils with injuries or diet restrictions as a result of her training methods—is responsible. In whatever fashion, Valieva, the gold medal favorite, was let down by the adults in her life. She was allowed to compete after testing positive for a drug reported to increase endurance. She had a poor run, finishing fourth, then her coach asked the already miserable Valieva "Why did you stop fighting?" It was a disastrous show all around.

There were other administrative disasters. Due to high winds, ski practice was canceled on Feb. 5, and according to medal contender Marco Odermatt, the International Ski Federation turned off their radio after minimal communication. On Feb. 12, women's alpine downhill practice was canceled due to snowfall. The cancellation was more due to the volume of snow than the snow itself, but that did not stop the decision from being roundly mocked on social media.

Peng Shuai, whose safety and freedom have been in doubt since sexual assault allegations against Zhang Gaoli were scrubbed from Weibo months ago, has spoken with the International Olympic Committee (IOC). They published an hour-long interview with her. Several of her comments recently have walked back her initial sexual assault allegations, saying it never happened. Considering the silencing nature of the Chinese Communist Party, popular sentiment is that Peng is being coerced to contradict her allegations. However, IOC spokesperson Mark Adams refused to support this theory: "I don't think it's for us to be able to judge, in one way, just as it's not for you to judge either," he said on Feb. 7. Adams's statement, and the content of the interview—much of it regarding Peng's retirement from professional tennis, which is odd given all the concern over her safety—lead one to believe that the IOC is interested only in allaying fears about the Games being held in Beijing, not Peng's well-being. Her freedom remains very much in doubt.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NEW YORK POST

Kamila Valieva was projected to place first in Women's Figure Skating. However, she ultimately finished in fourth.

Predictably yet depressingly, dozens of athletes tested positive for COVID-19. Mikaela Shiffrin, who many expected to win a medal, underperformed at her events. The media jumped on her like a starving tiger. Her grace in the wake of the excessive backlash was one of the few proud moments of the Games. Remi Lindholm froze his penis during the 50-kilometer cross country skiing event. Due to conditions, the start was delayed and the race shortened to 30 kilometers, but for Lindholm, who had to use a heat pack to revive his frozen organ, it did not matter. "The pain was unbearable," he said.

Then there were the usual Olympic concerns. Time after time, host countries have not been able to maintain the massively expensive facilities used to house the events. The system of rotating hosts has drained many cities of funds, while leaving clunky stadiums on their hands that are expensive to maintain but difficult to get rid of. No one wins. With only local spectators permitted to watch the Games on site this year, revenue presumably took a considerable hit.

There were token heartwarming moments at the Games, but they seemed to be dwarfed by the screwups. NPR published an article by Jaclyn Diaz, Tom Goldman and Brian Mann on Feb. 21 called "9 moments that resonated at the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics." The first line of the article read "The 2022 Beijing Winter Games will likely be remembered for being yet another 'COVID Olympics.'"

It is always amazing to watch the best athletes in the world compete against each other. At their best, the Olympics feel worthy of the declaration at the top of their website: "...the Olympics are where the world comes to compete, feel inspired, and be together." This year, though, the specter of global turmoil loomed large and the IOC's errors did not help, leaving the Games—an event of flagging purpose, you could argue—feeling as lifeless as they ever have.

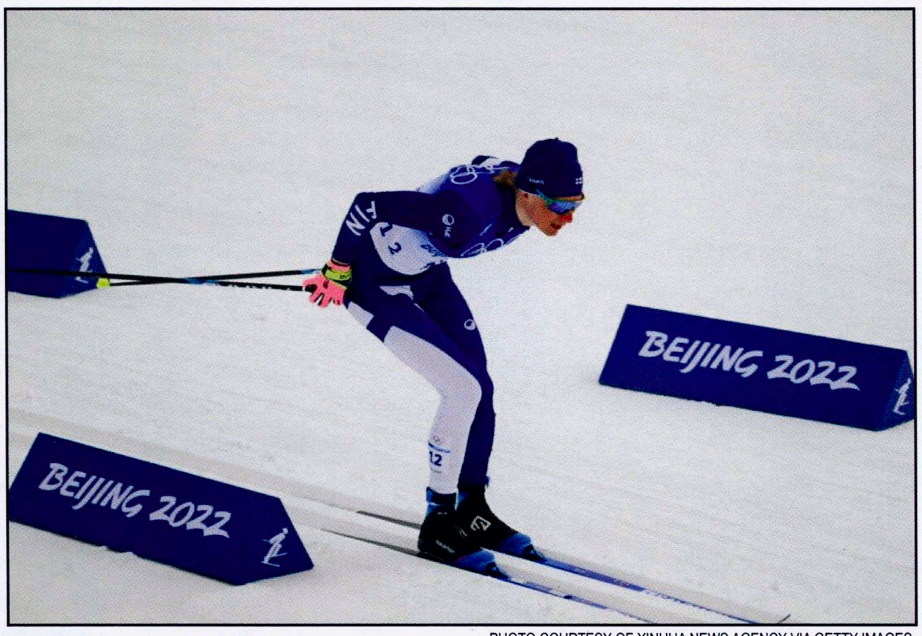

PHOTO COURTESY OF XINHUA NEWS AGENCY VIA GETTY IMAGES

Remi Lindholm (above) froze his penis in frigid conditions during the 50-kilometer event, despite a shortened distance and a delayed start.